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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/538,502	06/09/2005	Nenad Milosavljevic	5451-5PUS	7025
27799 7590 01/29/2008 COHEN, PONTANI, LIEBERMAN & PAVANE 551 FIFTH AVENUE SUITE 1210 NEW YORK, NY 10176			EXAMINER HALPERN, MARK	
			ART UNIT 1791	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 01/29/2008	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	10/538,502		MILOSAVLJEVIC, NENAD	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	Mark Halpern		1791	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 January 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 and 7-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 7-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

- 1) Acknowledgement is made of Amendment received 1/14/2008. Claims 1-5, 7-9 are amended, claim 6 is cancelled, and new claims 10-12 are offered for consideration.

Claim Objections

- 2) Claims 11-12 depend from claim 6 which is cancelled. Correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

- 3) Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 5 is not clear as to what defines a "normal air pressure".

Claim 5 recites the limitation "the normal air pressure" in line 3. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2) Claims 1-5, 7-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Petersson (4,553,340) in view of Milosavljevic (6,189,232).

Claims 1, 9-12: Petersson discloses paper machine that includes a sealing device in a cylinder drier. The sealing device includes three cylinders 1a, 1b, and 1a, arranged to form a pocket space between the cylinders. Web 2 is traveling on a wire 3 around the cylinders in the direction of the arrows, as shown in Figure 1. Blowing box 10 is arranged in the pocket space and a shielding member 7, blowing air from slots 11 in direction 12, direction towards the traveling web, creating a sub-pressure in the area between opening nip and closing nip; free end 8 of shielding member 7 touches cylinder 1b. From Figure 1 of Petersson, it is clear that the proportion between the height of the shielding member 7 and the height of the blow box 10 is within the broad interval of 25 – 300 %. The shielding member 7, which is attached to the blow box is considered to be equivalent to the claimed wall (col. 2, line 19 to col. 3, line 55, and Figures 1-2). It is well known in the art to seal a blow box, which blows air in the direction of the travel of the web as described in Petersson, against the lowest cylinder in the pocket in order to create a sub pressure in the area between the opening nip and the closing nip following it, see for example Milosavljevic. Thus, it is considered obvious to a person skilled in the art to seal the free end (8) of the shielding member described in Petersson against the lower cylinder in order to increase the sub pressure in the area between the opening nip and the closing nip. The use of a boundary layer air doctor as sealing

element is considered to be an obvious choice to a person skilled in the art.

Consequently, the arrangement according to claim 1 is considered to be obvious to a person skilled in the art. Milosavljevic discloses wall 25 being perforated to provide a vacuum effect, therefore the nozzle wall is obviously flexible and bends elastically in fault situations. Petersson and Milosavljevic disclose the elements of the invention. One of ordinary skill in the art could have combined the elements by known methods since the combination of Petersson and Milosavljevic is a combination of known methods, and each element combined would have performed the same function as it did separately, and thus one of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized that the results of the combination were **predictable**.

Claims 2-3: From Figure 1 it is clear that the height of the shielding member (7) is significantly greater than the height of the blow box in the traveling direction of the paper web. It is considered obvious to a person skilled in the art to dimension the blowbox and the shielding member appropriately.

Claims 4, 7, 8 are considered constructional details obvious to a person skilled in the art.

Claim 5: the amount of an underpressure as compared to a normal pressure is a method operational and not an apparatus limitation that would structurally differentiate over cited prior art.

Response to Amendment

- 4) Applicant's arguments with respect to pending claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

- 5) **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

- 6) Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark Halpern whose telephone no. is 571-272-1190.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steven Griffin can be reached on 571-272-1189. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Mark Halpern/
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1791